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DO 620 The Person and Work of Christ

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DO 620
THE PERSON AND WORK OF CHRIST
Spring 2004
Dr. Allan Coppedge

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course covers the study of the person and work of Christ. It treats the nature of man/woman both as a creature and as a sinner, including original sin, and the nature and consequences of individual acts of sin. This study focuses on both the atoning work of Christ and on the application of the work of Christ by the Holy Spirit that runs from salvation all the way to glorification.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To see the impact of the doctrine of God, especially the Roles of God, on the doctrines of christology, anthropology, hamartiology and soteriology.
2. To understand how the person of Christ helps interpret the economic Trinity and the ontological Trinity.
3. To understand the centrality of Christ for all Christian theology.
4. To understand the nature of humankind and the significance of persons created in the image of God as modeled by Christ.
5. To understand the nature of sin and its various components and its impact upon men and women.
6. To understand the basic biblical and historical data on the person of Christ.
7. To understand the basic biblical and historical data on the work of Christ.
8. To appreciate the application of the work of Christ in human lives as a part of the doctrine of salvation.
9. To understand the doctrine of sanctification (as a part of soteriology) and its implications for Christian living.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Study assignments:** Reading with outlines, evaluations and Bible studies on assigned material. A collateral chart (attached) should be kept, which should include a record of the number of hours per week spent reading, outlining and taking notes. The number of hours studied will determine the grade options available to the student for the entire course.

To be eligible to earn any grade up through an

A = a total of at least 78 hours per semester or about 6 hours per week.

B = at least 72 hours per semester or about 5 ½ hours per week.

C = at least 65 hours per semester or about 5 hours per week.

At least 60 hours per term is required for a passing grade.

2. A notebook should be kept of all outlines, evaluations and Bible study notes in a looseleaf binder. The outlines should be kept by subject headings. The grade for this notebook comes from the collateral chart that indicates the assignments done and the hours spent over the term. It will constitute 25% of the final grade.
3. **Mid-term exam.** A mid-term exam will be given March 23. It will cover the lectures and the readings to a point to be designated by the professor. It will constitute 25% of the final grade.
4. **Final exam.** A final exam will be given on May 18, 6:15–9:00 and will cover the class lectures plus readings since the mid-term. It will constitute 25% of the final grade.
5. A paper on the subject: “The Relationship of the Incarnation to the Atonement.” 20 pages. Due May 11. 25% of grade.
6. **Class attendance.** Class attendance and participation is assumed. A record of any absences should be kept on the collateral chart. More than one unexcused absence could adversely affect the final grade.

Out of courtesy to the other members of the class, it is requested that no food or beverage be brought into the classroom.

IV. COURSE TEXTBOOKS

Required:

Thomas Torrance, The Trinitarian Faith.

_____, The Mediation of Christ.

St. Athanasius, On The Incarnation.

Dennis Kinlaw, Let's Begin with Jesus.

MS available from The Barnabas Foundation.

Recommended:

Thomas Oden, The Word of Life. For reference

Allan Coppedge, The Portraits of God. For reference

Allan Coppedge, Triune Theism.

MS available from The Barnabas Foundation.

Emil Brunner, The Mediator.

Gustaf Aulén, Christus Victor.

Requested in Class:

An English Standard Version of the Bible

STUDY ASSIGNMENTS

READING SCHEDULE DO 620

FEBRUARY
10 – 13 Read with 2 – 3 page critique:
Dennis Kinlaw, “Let’s Begin with Jesus.” MS.

FEBRUARY
17 – 20 **BIBLE STUDY:** (one hour assignment)
Mt 1:18 – 2:6
What are characteristics of person and work of Jesus that are being introduced?
Cf. Luke 1:26-38.
(John 5:17-29 suggested devotional study)
What is relationship between Jesus and Father?

READ

Thomas Oden, Word of Life.

Preface pp. IX-XXI: chapter 1, pp. 1-27; chapter 2, pp. 31-56; chapter 3, pp., 57-92,
(Use Study Guide instead of outlines)

Allan Coppedge, Triune Theism.

Chapter 1, Biblical Foundations. (1-2 page critique)

Donald Armstrong, Who Do You Say That I Am? Read

Chapter 2, Richard Reid, “The Necessity of a Biblical Christology,” and Chapter 3,
N.T. Wright, “The Biblical Formation of a Doctrine of Christ.”

ALTERNATIVE: If Oden read recently.

Emil Brunner, The Mediator.

Chapters VII, “The Divine Word,” VIII, “The Divine Nature,” (not the appendix)

FEBRUARY
24-27 **BIBLE STUDY:**

John 1:1-18

What are the characteristics of the person and work of Jesus being introduced:
(John 10:22-38. Standard question)

Allan Coppedge, Triune Theism MS

Chapter 2, Historical Foundations. (Outline material issues)

Thomas Oden, Word of Life

Chapter 4, The Incarnation, pp. 93-132. (Use Study Guide)

St. Athanasius, On The incarnation.

pp. 3-47, Introduction Theory, chapter 3. (Read)

Alternate to Oden:

Emil Brunner, The Mediator.

Chapter IX, “The Divine Person,” and Chapter X, “The Self-Movement of God.”

MARCH
2

Please have work completed from this point on by class time on Tuesday.

BIBLE STUDY:

Col 1:13-20; 2:9-10. Standard question.
(John 12:44-50)

Allan Coppedge, Triune Theism.

Chapter 3, Theological Foundations. (1-2 page critique)

Thomas Oden, Word of Life. (use study guide)

Chapter 5, "The Manner of God's Coming," pp. 133-153 only.

Thomas F. Torrance, The Trinitarian Faith,

Forward and Chapters 1-3, pp. 1-109. (3-4 page critique)

ALTERNATIVE TO ODEN:

Emil Brunner, The Mediator,

Chapter XI, "The Eternal Basis and the Temporal Event of the Incarnation,"

Chapter XII, "The Fact of the Incarnation."

MARCH
9

BIBLE STUDY:

Phil 2:4-11

Standard question.

(John 14:1-11)

Thomas F. Torrance, Trinitarian Faith,

Chapters 4-5, pp. 110-190. (2-3 page critique)

Thomas Oden, Word of Life,

Chapter 6, "One Person – Truly God, Truly Human," p. 164-194 (Use Study Guide)

Allan Coppedge, Portraits of God, Introduction, Chapter 1. (Read)

ALTERNATIVE TO ODEN:

Emil Brunner, The Mediator,

Chapter XIII, "The Significance of the Humanity of Christ."

MARCH
16

BIBLE STUDY:

Hebrews 1:1-5; 2:5-3:6, cf. 4:14-5:10 and Chapter 7. Standard question.
(John 17)

Allan Coppedge, Portraits of God.

Chapter 2 and 11. Plus

Chapter 3: pp. 59-66, 92-95

Chapter 4: 100-111

Chapter 5: 135-153

Chapter 6: 176-186

Chapter 7: 211-219

Chapter 8: 252-268

Chapter 9: 304-311

Chapter 10: 336-341

(3 page summary of Roles of Christ)

If time permits:

Thomas F. Torrance, The Trinitarian Faith,

Chapter 6, "The Eternal Spirit," pp., 191-251

MARCH
23

BIBLE STUDY:

Mt 3:13-17; Luke 3:21-22, 38-4:1, 14: John 1:29-34. Standard question.
(John 14:15-26. What is relationship of Jesus to the Spirit?)

Allan Coppege, Triune Theism.

Chapter 4, (write three page essay on "Jesus and the Relational and Moral Attributes of God.")

Thomas F. Torrance, The Trinitarian Faith.

Chapter 8, "The Trinity of God," pp. 66-71, 373-375. (Read)

Christoph Schwöbel and Colin Gunton, Persons, Divine and Human,

Chapters 1 and 3, pp. 33-61. (3 page critique)

APRIL
6

BIBLE STUDY:

Genesis 3. Describe the characteristics of sin?

(John 16:4-15. What is relationship of Jesus and the Spirit?)

Allan Coppedge, Portraits, (section on man/woman and sin)

(3 page summary of person and sin in all roles)

Colin Gunton, The Triune Creator,

Chapter 9, "Creation and New Creation." Pp. 193-211 (2 page critique)

Allan Coppedge, Triune Theism,

Chapter 7. Implications of Trinitarian Theology.

(Outline implications for anthropology, sin, and christology)

An Additional Reading May Be Assigned.

**APRIL
13**

Coppedge, Portraits Of God,
Sections on Atonement and Salvation
pp. 75-79, 116-120, 155-158, 188-191, 224-228, 273-279, 344-346
(4 page summary of atonement and salvation for all roles)

Oden, Word Of Life,
CHAPTER 11, In Our Place, pp. 344-414 (Use Study Guide)

Alternative to Oden

Brunner, The Mediator,
Chapter 19, The Expiatory Sacrifice, pp. 475-489

**APRIL
20**

Athanasius, On The Incarnation,
Chapters IV-V, pp. 48-63. (Read)

Brunner, The Mediator,
Chapter 20, The Mediator, pp. 490-514. (2 page critique)

T.F. Torrance, The Mediation of Christ,
Chapter 1, The Mediation of Revelation, pp. 1-23. (3 page critique)

Gustaf, Aulén, Christus Victor,
Chapters 1 and 2, Problem/Answers and Irenaeus, pp. 1-35. (Read)

Irenaeus, Against Heresies,
Sections XVII AND XIX, A N E, pp. 445-449 (1 page summary of recapitulation)

**APRIL
27**

Athanasius, On The Incarnation
Chapters VI – IX, pp. 64-95. (Read)

Torrance, The Mediation of Christ,
Chapter The Mediation of Reconciliation, pp. 24-46. (2 page critique)

Brunner, The Mediator,
Chapter 17, The Necessity of Reconciliation, pp. 435-454 (2 page critique)

Oden, The Word of Life,
Chapter 12

Oden, Christus Victor,
pp. 429-450 (Use Study Guide)

MAY
4

Oden, Word of Life,
Chapter 14, Ascension and Session (Use Study Guide)

Torrance, The Mediator of Christ,
Chapter 3, The Person of The Mediator, pp. 47-82; Chapter 4, The Mediation of Christ
in Our Human Response, pp. 83-98. (2 page critique on each chapter)

Aulén, Christus Victor,
Chapter V, The Middle Ages, pp. 81-100. (2 page summary)

Anselem, Why God Became Man,
Anselem's Doctrine of Atonement, pp. 42-48 (taking notes); Why God Became Man,
pp. 57-163 (read only)

MAY
11

Aulén, Christus Victor,
Chapter VIII, The Three Types, pp. 143-160. (2 page summary)

Brunner, The Mediator,
Chapter 18, The Penal Theory of the Atonement, pp. 455-373 (2 page critique)
Chapter 21, The Atonement, pp. 99-126. (2 page critique)

Torrance, The Mediation of Christ,
Chapter 5, The Atonement and the Holy Trinity, pp. 99-126. (2 page critique)

As Time Permits

Coppedge, Triune Theism,
Chapters 7, Trinitarian Theology: Implications
(Read section on Implications for soteriology)

STUDY GUIDE

The Word of Life

by Thomas Oden

The student should understand and be able to explain the following:

The Preface

1. Oden's purpose in writing.
2. The role of classic, consensual, ecumenical teaching.
3. Oden's pyramid of sources.
4. The role of originality.
5. The ecumenical doctors of the Eastern Church.
6. The ecumenical doctors of the Western Church.

Chapter One - Why Christ?

1. The personal grounding of Christianity.
2. The central question.
3. The meaning of Christology.
4. The meaning of gospel.
5. Relation of Creeds to Scripture.
6. Definition of the person and work of Christ.
7. Theandric union.
8. Key issues of the person of Christ.
9. Key issues of the work of Christ.
10. The States of Christ.
11. The Offices of Christ.
12. The Nicene Creed as organizing principle for the study of Christ.
13. The decent and accent of Christ.

Chapter Two - The Body Language of God

1. Inadequate Hypotheses concerning his Identity.
2. Arguments concerning Christ's Identity.
3. The Arian option.
4. Jesus as Lord.

Chapter Three -- Divine Sonship

1. Jesus as Son of God.
2. The true equality with the Father.
3. Preexistence of the Son.
4. Humiliation and Exultation.
5. Three Offices of Christ.
6. Kenosis.
7. Form of God, Form of a Servant (Phil 2:5-11).
8. Subordinationism.
9. Divine Humiliation and Exercise of Divine Powers.
10. The State of Exultation.

Chapter Four – The Incarnation

1. *Cur Deus Homo.*
2. The Relationship of the Incarnation to Redemption.
3. Purposes of Mediation.
4. Incarnation and Humanity.
5. Eternally Begotten.
6. Docetism.
7. Apollinarinism.
8. Recapitulation.

Chapter Five – The Manner of God’s Coming

1. The Theological Role of the Virgin Birth.
2. Ebionism.
3. *Theotokos*.

Chapter Six – One Person—Truly God, Truly Human

1. The Four Elementary Teachings Essential for Understanding the Distinctive Personhood of Christ.
2. The Chalcedon Formula: Two Natures, One Person.
3. The Hypostatic Union.
4. The Theanthropos.
5. Four Generic Ways of Using Language about Christ.
6. Intrapersonal permeation.
Communicatio idiomatum
Perichoresis
7. The definition of Chalcedon
8. Heretical options rejected
Docetism
Apollinarianism
Eutychianism
Ebionism
Arinism
Nestorianism
Monophysitism
Monothelitism
9. The Theandric Union and Salvation.

Chapter Eight – The Public Ministry of Jesus

1. Meaning and Symbols of Jesus’ baptism
2. Adoptionism
3. Meaning and Significance of Temptation of Jesus
4. Arguments for Sinlessness of Jesus
5. Jesus as Son of Man
6. Jesus as Christ/Anointed One
7. Names and Titles of Jesus

Chapter Nine – The Work He Came to Do

1. Offices of Christ
2. Christ As Prophet
3. Jesus and the Law
4. Christ as Priest
5. Christ as Sacrifice
6. Role of the Temple

Chapter Ten – The Death of Jesus

1. Passion of Jesus
2. Jesus and Suffering/Death of God

Chapter Eleven - In Our Place

1. Procuring Cause of Salvation
2. The Cross in Relation to Holiness and Love
3. Kaphar
4. God's Sacrifice for Humankind
5. Atonement and Righteousness, Reconciliation and Redemption
6. Metaphors of Atonement
7. Active and Passive Obedience
8. Atonement and Sacrifice
9. Moral Necessity of Cross
10. Vicarious Death of Christ
11. Extent of Atonement
12. Atonement as Ransom
13. Atonement as Satisfaction
14. Propitiation and Expiation
15. Atonement and Life
16. Christus Victor
17. Moral Influence Theory of Atonement
18. Governmental Theory of Atonement
19. Theodicy

Chapter Twelve – Christus Victor

1. Exaltation of Christ
2. Causes of Salvation
3. Centrality of Life
4. Descent into Nether World

Chapter Thirteen – The Risen Lord

1. Meanings of His Resurrection
2. Necessity of the Resurrection

Chapter Fourteen – Ascension and Session

1. Meaning of Ascension
2. Exaltation of Divine or Human Nature
3. Meaning of Session
4. Jesus as Exalted King

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COLLATERAL CHART

[illegible]

